



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER  
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, TEXAS**

## **Widows and Widowers who re-marry after the Death of a Spouse**

This article provides information on eligibility of medical benefits for widow/widowers who remarry after the death of a spouse.

### **Eligibility for Medical Benefits**

Widows and widowers who remarry are not eligible to keep their medical benefits. Title 10, Section 1072 does not recognize a person as being eligible to keep their medical benefits upon remarriage. When a widow or widower remarries, they lose their eligibility for medical benefits on the date of marriage. The only exception is if the new spouse is a military member. When a military member marries, their new spouse becomes eligible for medical benefits, providing they are enrolled within the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

A widow/widower of a military member who remarries after the death of their spouse and the subsequent marriage ends in divorce or death are eligible for reinstatement of shopping privilege access only. No medical benefits or access to medical care is afforded according to Title 10, Section 1072. A widow/widower may be eligible for Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, known as "CHAMPVA."

### **AUTHORITATIVE/RELATED RESOURCES**

[AFI 36-3026V1 IP](#), *Identification Cards for Members of the Uniformed Services, their Eligible Family Members, and other Eligible Personnel*